News Release



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE August 17, 2005

California State Parks' Central Valley Vision

California State Parks Director Ruth Coleman today announced the latest round of public meetings to gather input on the department's Central Valley Vision from residents throughout the Central Valley. This latest round of meetings will happen in areas from Red Bluff to the Delta and down the Central Valley to Bakersfield.

Public Outreach Meetings

State parks instituted a long-range program to help guide its future development and acquisition program in the Great Central Valley in California's heartland. During the spring of 2005, outreach meetings occurred in Sacramento, Redding, Chico, Davis, Woodland, Fresno, Visalia and Tulare.

We want to hear from you! What special areas or facilities would you like considered? Where should we seek to acquire new lands because of their natural, cultural, historical or recreational potential? Please join us:

Sept. 13, 2005: 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Host: Moore's Riverboat Marina 106 Brannan Island Road Isleton, CA (Delta region)

Sept. 15, 2005: 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Host: Madera County Board of Supervisors Madera Resource Management Agency 2037 West Cleveland Avenue, A-7 Madera, CA

Sept. 20, 2005: 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Host: Great Valley Center 201 Needham Street Modesto, CA Sept. 14, 2005: 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Host: Black Gold Theater/Kern Museum 3801 Chester Avenue Bakersfield, CA

Sept. 19, 2005: 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Host: Department of Parks and Recreation Red Bluff Community Center 1500 S. Jackson Street Red Bluff, CA

Sept. 21, 2005: 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Host: U.C. Merced 4225 N. Hospital Road (Old Castle AFB) Redwood Room Atwater, CA

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<u>Sept. 27, 2005</u>: 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Host: City of Stockton Memorial Civic Auditorium, North Hall 525 North Center Street Stockton, CA

Geographically, the Central Valley is an area that ranges from roughly the northern side of the Tehachapi's in the south to Shasta in the north, a distance of about 450 miles long and approximately 50 miles wide. The valley encompasses part or all of 18 California counties and accounts for over fifteen million acres or 15 percent of California's total acreage. California State Parks manages 32 units with a total acreage of 94,700 within this area, or about seven percent of the total state park lands.

For more information, please visit the Department's web site, www.parks.ca.gov/centralvalley or contact the Planning Division at 916 651-9901 or fax 916 653-4458.

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